



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

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## Russian Federation

### Trade Policy Monitoring

## Heads of CIS Governments Discuss Food Security 2008

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**Report Highlights:**

On November 14, during an economic summit in Chisinau the Heads of the commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) approved a range of measures in efforts to enhance food security of their countries. The countries agreed to strengthen the coordination of their domestic and international agricultural policy.

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On November 14, during the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) economic summit in Chisinau the heads of the CIS Governments approved a series of joint measures aimed at strengthening food security of the Commonwealth Member Countries. This document is one of 30 documents approved at the Summit in efforts to establish a strategy of economic development in 2020. One of the main purposes of the "Series of Joint Measures" is to form an agreed agricultural policy for the food markets and increase the competitiveness of each CIS member country and of Commonwealth as whole.

The document admits that the internal markets of CIS member countries are oversupplied with imports from non-CIS countries. Domestically produced agricultural products are not in high demand and domestic producers are suffering. However, the CIS countries believe that they could become self-sufficient in food production under the framework of coordinated agrarian policies. The Commonwealth envisions that it will be able to maximize its potential, and will be able to successfully compete with transnational companies of U.S., EU, and of South-East Asia countries. To reach this goal, the document envisages integrated measures for food imports, exports and production.

In addition to the CIS countries intend to take specific measures on crop production, plant breeding, livestock and poultry production and breeding. Cooperation will also extend to the production of agricultural machinery, education, training of agricultural personnel, and representation in international organizations regarding an issue of food security.

The members supported the initiative of Turkmenistan to hold an Agricultural Forum in 2009.